

DATE: AUGUST 31, 2020

DAY: MONDAY

# DENR

## IN THE NEWS

Strategic Communication and Initiatives Service

# Puyat on cover of lifestyle magazine

Published August 30, 2020, 3:51 PM

by [Hanah Tabios](#)

Tourism Secretary Bernadette Romulo-Puyat, along with her co-chairs in the Boracay Inter-Agency Task Force (BIATF), graced the cover of a local bilingual business and lifestyle publication in its 74th issue.



(Photo from Department of Tourism (DOT) Secretary Bernadette Romulo-Puyat instagram account)

In an Instagram post, Puyat expressed her admiration to Interior Secretary Eduardo Ano and Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu for leading the rehabilitation efforts at the famed Boracay Island in 2018.

“I couldn’t have asked for better partners in government in rehabilitation work needed in our destinations,” she said. “We still, more or less, have the same roles in dealing with this pandemic, enforcing environmental protection, local government unit coordination and engagement, and safely and slowly restarting tourism but on a national scale.”

In 2018, President Duterte ordered the six-month closure of the world-famous Boracay Island from April to September to pave the way for a massive rehabilitation of the island, which has long been plagued with environmental problems.

The President extended the term of the BIATF until May 8, 2021 by the virtue of an Executive Order he signed last May 11, 2020, citing the need to complete the critical projects in the island.

Duterte was supposed to visit the island for the first time last March 12, right before the pandemic erupted, to promote domestic tourism since its reopening.

But with the ongoing global health crisis, leisure travelers are still prohibited from entering the island even with its partial reopening for Western Visayas residents last June 16.

## DENR, hinikayat ang publiko sa urban gardening



August 30, 2020 @ 11:06 AM 20 hours ago

Manila, Philippines – Hinikayat ni Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Undersecretary Benny Antiporda ang publiko na subukan ang pagtatanim o urban gardening.

Ayon kay Antiporda, makipagtulungan ang Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) sa Department of Agriculture (DA) para magdaos ng isang pagsasanay sa mga nais na maging bihasa sa urban gardening.

Giit pa ng opisyal, tiyak na makatutulong ang pagtatanim sa kaisipan o pagpapawala ng stress na duloy na kasalukuyang krisis dulot ng pandemya ng COVID-19.

Paghahandaan din ng DENR ang plano nitong mamahagi ng iba't ibang seedlings para sa nasbaing inisyatiba.

Ayon pa kay Antiporda, mangyari lamang na makipag-ugnayan sa kanilang ahensya o kaya't mag-message sa kanilang social media platforms kaugnay dito. RNT/LF

DENR, Laguna-based army reserve group nagsanib sa

TITLE: pangangalaga sa calabarzon forest

PAGE 1/ 1/2

August 31, 2020

DATE

## DENR, LAGUNA-BASED ARMY RESERVE GROUP NAGSANIB SA PANGANGALAGA SA CALABARZON FOREST



August 31, 2020 @ 12:09 AM 6 hours ago

MULING nagsanib-pwersa ang Department of Environment and Natural Resources at ang Laguna-based Army reserve group upang palakasin ang kampanya sa reforestation at pagbibigay ng proteksyon sa kagubatan sa CALABARZON region sa gitna ng coronavirus pandemic.

Sa pamamagitan ng pagtutulungan ng 4th Regional Community Defense Group-Army Reserve Command (RCDG-ARESCOM) at ng DENR-CALABARZON ay maiingatan na nang maayos ang mga nakumpiskang forest products at replacement seedlings sa mga puno na naapektuhan ng road widening projects ng Department of Public Works and Highways.

Muling naglaan ng 10 ektaryang lupa sa Camp General Macario Sakay sa Los Banos, Laguna ang 4th RCDG-ARESCOM upang magsilbing impounding facility para sa mga nakumpiskang forest products ng DENR, mga pinutol na puno para sa road widening ng DPWH at mga replacement seedlings para rito.

Tinawag naman na “brilliant move” ni Environment Secretary Roy A. Cimatu ang naging alyansa ng DENR-CALABARZON at 4th RCDG-ARESCOM dahil matutulungan nito ang gobyerno na makatipid ng pondo sa pagpapatayo ng bagong storage facility.

“This partnership greatly benefits the government in terms of incurred savings since funds for building additional facility will no longer be needed,” pagdidiin pa ni Cimatu.

Ang memorandum of partnership ay nilagdaan nina DENR-CALABARZON Regional Executive Director Nonito Tamayo at 4th RCDG-ARESCOM Group Commander Col. Romulo Satparam.

Ito ay katulad din ng nilagdaang MOPA ng DENR-CALABARZON at Army reserve group noong Pebrero ng nakalipas na taon.

Nagpasalamat naman si Tamayo sa 4th RCDG-ARESCOM sa panibagong partnership nito sa DENR.

“This partnership will boost the efforts of the regional office in producing more replacement seedlings and confiscating logs from illegal traders because of the significant increase in area for storage,” sabi pa ni Tamayo.

DENR, Laguna-based army reserve group nagsanib sa

August 31, 2020

TITLE: pangangalaga sa calabarzon forest

PAGE 1/ 2/2

DATE

Sa ilalim ng MOPA, maaaring ilagay ng DENR-CALABARZON ang mga replacement seedling para sa cutting permits at mga nakumpiskang forest products sa inilaan na lugar sa loob ng Camp General Macario Sakay na pangangasiwaan ng 4th RCDG-ARESCOM.

Sasagutin din ng ahensya ang regular maintenance, monitoring at inventory ng mga ilalagay sa depository area.

Samantala, maglalaan naman ang Army reserve ng nursery shed, kasama na ang pagmamantine ng lugar na ito para sa replacement seedlings at mga nakumpiskang forest products.

Magbibigay rin ito ng assistance sa pagpapanatili ng lugar, kasama rin ang manpower at security para sa mobile clean-up drive ng DENR regional office at ng Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office sa Laguna.



## Laguna officials plant 11k seedlings

posted August 30, 2020 at 09:10 pm

by [Roy Tomandao](#)

Calamba – The Laguna Provincial Police Office has joined hands with the provincial government and other agencies to plant 11,175 seedlings of various tree types under the joint Project “Samahang Pulis Laguna, Kapanalig Mo at Makakalikasan (SPLaKaM).”

Joining the Laguna PPO and the Provincial Government of Laguna, were officials of the Department of the Interior and Local Government, Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office, and Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office.



*TREE SEEDLING. PNP Laguna Provincial Director PCol. Serafin Petalio plants one of 11,000 tree seedlings all over Laguna under the project “Samahan Pulis Laguna, Kapanalig Mo at Makakalikasan (SPLAKAM) on Wednesday. Roy Tomandao*

The event also celebrated the 6th month of service of Police Colonel Serafin F. Petalio II as the Provincial Director of Laguna PPO.

Prior to the tree planting, the project SPLaKaM was presented to the participants by Police Major Melisa M Malayo, Chief of the Provincial Community Affairs and Development Unit (PCADU), as the heads of agencies signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU). Roy Tomandao

The MOU was signed by Governor Ramil L Hernandez, represented by the Chairperson of the Peace and Order Council Ms. Maricar A Palacol, PCOL Petalio, Engr. John M Cerezo, DILG Laguna; Ronilo L Salac, Head PENRO Laguna; Edgardo A Ramos, Mayor of Pila, Laguna; Jovir P Matienzo, ABC President of Pila Laguna; Alexander A Reuyan, President of Municipal Advisory Council of Pila MPS; Luisito M Larazo, Chairman of Brgy Pinagbayanan, Pila, Laguna; and Ethel Fe R Varona, President of Rotary Club Pila West.

About 320 seedlings were planted during the launching of the Provincial Headquarters together with the agencies, NGOs, Brgy Officials, Barangay Peace-Keeping Action Team (BPATs) and residents of Barangay Pinagbayanan in the Municipality of Pila.

The other 10,855 seedlings were planted during the launching of the police stations and force companies of Laguna PPO in its areas of responsibility.

Poachers nabbed for butchering critically-endangered

August 31, 2020

TITLE: tamaraw in Mindoro

PAGE 1/ 1/2

DATE

# Poachers nabbed for butchering critically-endangered tamaraw in Mindoro

Published August 30, 2020, 1:31 PM

by [Ellalyn De Vera-Ruiz](#)

Three poachers reportedly shot and butchered a critically-endangered tamaraw in the Mounts Iglit- Baco Natural Park in Mindoro last Friday, August 28.



Tamaraw Conservation Programme (TCP) and park rangers recover fresh strips of tamaraw meat being dried as beef jerky or tapa. The meat came from a tamaraw bull which was approximately six years old. Legally-protected animals like the tamaraw are targeted for the illegal bushmeat trade in many parts of the world. (Tamaraw Conservation Programme/ MANILA BULLETIN)

Two of them were reportedly arrested by patrolling park rangers, while their cohort was able to escape.

However, the two arrested poachers were later able to escape.

“Poachers might be using the COVID-19 (coronavirus disease) lockdown as an opportunity to illegally enter our country’s protected areas and hunt animals. Rest assured that our rangers won’t stand for this. We’ll see to it that these poachers are prosecuted to the full extent of the law,” Tamaraw Conservation Program (TCP) head Neil Anthony del Mundo said in a statement.

Department of Environment and Natural Resources Assistant Secretary Ricardo Calderon condemned the slaughtering of endangered wildlife.

“Nothing, not even the pandemic, is an excuse to kill legally-protected wildlife, for no one is above the law. We will work with both DENR-MIMAROPA (Oriental Mindoro, Occidental Mindoro, Marinduque, Romblon, Palawan) and the TCP to ensure that poachers get the punishment they deserve. Let this serve as a lesson for would-be poachers,” he said.

The rangers caught the poachers drying meat near the base of Mt. McGowen inside the natural park shortly before noon on Friday.

Two “pugakang” or homemade shotguns were confiscated, as well as a sack of tamaraw meat, to be dried and illegally sold as tapa or buffalo bush jerky.

However, just after three hours in custody, the two apprehended poachers were able to escape into the jungle.

Tamaraws are the world’s most endangered buffalo species, and are considered by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) as critically-endangered, the highest risk-rating for any species.

Only around 600 are left worldwide, most of them found in four isolated areas in Mindoro.



Poachers nabbed for butchering critically-endangered

August 31, 2020

TITLE: tamaraw in Mindoro

PAGE 1/ 1/2

DATE

They are legally protected under the Republic Act 9147 or the Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act. Killing endangered wildlife entails up to 12 years of jail time plus a fine of up to ₱1 million.

Dedicated rangers and wardens of the Mts. Iglit-Baco Natural Park (MIBNP) and TCP have been conserving the tamaraw for decades. From less than 100 animals in 1969, numbers have recovered to about 600.

“Our tamaraw frontliners who in spite of losing incomes due to the pandemic, continue their daily patrols without expectation of compensation just to ensure the safety of our tamaraw. It is high time and urgent that budgetary resources for environmental protection and enforcement be given utmost priority for protected areas, which are home to critically-endangered and threatened species like the tamaraw,” said BIOFIN Philippines project manager Anabelle Plantilla.

Through the #TogetherforTamaraws, BIOFIN is hoping to raise approximately ₱1.149 million by October 2020 to help secure sorely-needed allowances and provisions for the tamaraw frontliners until January 2021. Plantilla enjoins everyone “to help the tamaraw frontliners by supporting #TogetherforTamaraws.”

“UNDP Philippines continues to support the rangers and wardens through the #TogetherforTamarawscampaign. Now more than ever, we need to join efforts to protect the tamaraw – a species in danger of extinction. We must protect what is left of our collective respect for life on Earth,” UNDP Philippines resident representative Enrico Gaveglia said.

Source: <https://mb.com.ph/2020/08/30/poachers-nabbed-for-butchering-critically-endangered-tamaraw-in-mindoro/?fbclid=IwAR2oM6Z4UZeKMZ6BVPDNnHMPa6RexPWHJ4Pp19PSPiTgYIZ7zViJ2fEC15E>



# Endangered tamaraw killed in Mindoro, 3 poachers escape: groups

Gillan Roper, ABS-CBN News

Posted at Aug 30 2020 12:52 PM | Updated as of Aug 30 2020 12:54 PM



Tamaraws are endemic forest buffalo found only on the island of Mindoro in the Philippines. Numbering only about 600, they are considered critically-endangered by the IUCN, the highest rating for any species. *Gregg Yan/Handout*

MANILA - A tamaraw, which is a critically-endangered species, was slaughtered in Mindoro Occidental while the three poachers responsible for it escaped authorities last Friday, an alliance of environmental groups said Sunday.

They were spotted drying meat near the base of Mt. McGowen in the Mounts Iglit-Baco Natural Park and two poachers were initially caught. They, however, fled custody after 3 hours, and joined the third in escaping.

“Pang kain lang po ito, tapos yung iba pang benta (We’ll eat some of the meat and sell the rest on the market),” one of the poachers told the groups.

A sack of tamaraw meat, to be dried and illegally sold as tapa or buffalo bush jerky, and 2 homemade shotguns were confiscated, the groups said.

Tamaraws (*Bubalus mindorensis*) are legally protected under the Wildlife Act, which penalizes killing of endangered species with up to 12 years in jail and a fine of up to P1 million.

The animal is the world’s most endangered buffalo species, with only around 600 left worldwide, most of which are found in isolated areas in Mindoro, according to the environmental alliance..

“Poachers might be using the COVID-19 lockdown as an opportunity to illegally enter our country’s protected areas and hunt animals,” said Tamaraw Conservation Program head Neil Anthony del Mundo.

"Rest assured that our rangers won't stand for this. We'll see to it that these poachers are prosecuted to the full extent of the law."

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) "strongly condemns" the butchering of endangered wildlife, said Assistant Secretary Ricardo Calderon.

“Nothing, not even the pandemic, is an excuse to kill legally-protected wildlife, for no one is above the law. We will work with both DENR MIMAROPA and the TCP to ensure that poachers get the punishment they deserve. Let this serve as a lesson for would-be poachers," he said.

Rangers and wardens of the TCP and MIBNP continue to patrol the forest to protect tamaraws despite being underquipped and underfunded, with the pandemic adding to their woes.

The DENR, United Nations Development Program’s Biodiversity Finance Initiative (UNDP-BIOFIN) and other organizations have launched #TogetherforTamaraws to raise an estimated P1.149 million cash gift for the rangers.

“Now more than ever, we need to join efforts to protect the tamaraw – a species in danger of extinction. We must protect what is left of our collective respect for life on Earth," UNDP Philippines resident representative Enrico Gaveglia said.

Source: [https://news.abs-cbn.com/news/08/30/20/endangered-tamaraw-killed-in-mindoro-3-poachers-escape-groups?fbclid=IwAR0WjvWOspR81VvnBoVtqhc390aPAvzolHKIe5GBkfH\\_6YCdb6RQodRRKuI](https://news.abs-cbn.com/news/08/30/20/endangered-tamaraw-killed-in-mindoro-3-poachers-escape-groups?fbclid=IwAR0WjvWOspR81VvnBoVtqhc390aPAvzolHKIe5GBkfH_6YCdb6RQodRRKuI)

# 3 pumatay ng Tamaraw, wanted

ni [Thea Janica Teh](#) | August 30, 2020



3 mangangaso ang pinaghahanap ng awtoridad matapos patayin ang tamaraw na isa nang critically-endangered species sa Mindoro Occidental noong Biyernes.

Dalawa sa mga ito ang namataang nagpapatuyo ng karne malapit sa base ng Mt. McGowen sa Mount Iglit-Baco Natural Park at agad na nahuli ngunit nakatakas.

Kuwento ng isang environmental group, sinabi ng isang mangangaso na kaya nila ito pinatay upang kainin at ibenta. Agad na nakuha sa mga ito ang isang sako ng karne ng tamaraw na ibebenta sana bilang tapa o buffalo bush jerky at dalawang homemade shotgun.

Ang mga Tamaraw ay legal na pinoprotektahan ng Wildlife Act. Nakapailalim sa batas na ito ang parusa sa mga taong nahuling pumatatay ng mga hayop na endangered species at maaaring patawan ng hanggang 12 taong pagkakakulong at 1 milyong pisong multa.

Ayon kay Tamaraw Conservation Program head Neil Anthony del Mundo, ginagamit umano ng mangangaso ang COVID-19 lockdown bilang oportunidad para gumawa ng ilegal. Kaya naman sinisigurado nito na lubos na poprotektahan ng mga ranger ang lugar at mapapatawan ng parusa ang sinumang lumabag.

Halos 600 tamaraw na lamang ang natitira sa buong mundo kaya ito ay pinapangalagaan. Karamihan dito ay makikita sa Mindoro.

## 3 TAMARAW POACHERS NA NADAKIP SA MINDORO OCCIDENTAL NAKATAKAS

written by [Gilbert Perdez](#) August 30, 2020



Nakatakas ang tatlong lalaki na nahuli ng mga awtoridad sa Mindoro Occidental matapos umanong katayin ang isang tamaraw na itinuturing na “critically-endangered species.”

Ayon kay Tamaraw Conservation Program head Neil Anthony del Mundo, naaktuhan ang mga poachers habang nagpapatuyo ng karne ng tamaraw malapit sa Mt. McGowen sa Mounts Iglit-Baco Natural Park.

Nasabat mula sa kanila ang tamaraw meat o tapa at dalawang boga.

Gayunman, habang nasa kustodiya ng mga awtoridad ang tatlong suspek ay nakatakas umano ang mga ito.

## Want a baby? Plant 2 trees

By [Divina Nova Joy Dela Cruz](#)

August 31, 2020

THE House of Representatives has approved on third and final reading two measures requiring tree planting.

These are House Bills (HB) 6930 or the “Family Tree Planting Act,” and 6931 or the “Graduation Legacy For Reforestation Act.”

HB 6930 requires parents to plant two trees for every child born to them. The trees must be planted in the premises of the family’s residence or in an area designated by the barangay (village) council, within 30 days after a child’s birth.

If enacted, this will be a requirement for the release of a child’s birth certificate. An affidavit for fulfilling the requirement will be released by the barangay captain for trees planted within the community or a Department of Environmental and Natural Resources (DENR) for those planted outside the village.

HB 6931 mandates planting of two trees for each senior high school and college student as a prerequisite for graduation. The DENR and the concerned local government unit, in coordination with schools, colleges and universities, are tasked to determine the site for planting trees.

Under both bills, fruit-bearing and indigenous species of trees are preferred. The bills also provide for the maintenance of a seedling bank, under the DENR and Department of Agriculture, as a source for trees that will be planted.



# A welcome legislation

Sunday, August 30, 2020 People's Tonight

THE House of Representatives (HOR) has approved on third and final reading two proposed pieces of legislation aimed at strengthening the government's reforestation and greening programs.

They are House Bills (HB) 6930 and 6931, which seek to require parents, legally married or not, and graduating high school and college students to plant trees, respectively.

HB 6930, otherwise known as the "Family Tree Planting Act," mandates parents to plant two trees for every child born to them. The planting must be done within 30 days after the child's birth.

The Local Civil Registry where the birth of the child shall be registered will only issue the Certificate of Live Birth upon the presentation of the parents' sworn statement of compliance to the measure.

The trees will be planted in areas to be designated by the Barangay Council, with the prior approval of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

HB 6931, on the other hand, requires all graduating high school and college/university students to plant at least two trees each as part of their civic duty to protect the environment.

The mandatory planting of trees will be a pre-requisite for graduation in public and private high schools and colleges.

Our people expect the two-chamber Congress to speed up the approval of HBs 6930 and 6931 as part of government efforts to address the worsening problem of climate change.

Climate change, which threatens even the existence of man, is seen to worsen because of society's addiction to fossil fuels and the continued destruction of the world's remaining forests.

Thus, we cannot overemphasize the importance crafting legislation aimed at bolstering the government's reforestation and greening programs across this tropical island nation in the Pacific.

# Manila pound officials charged with animal cruelty

Published 1 day ago on August 30, 2020 03:20 AM

By [Keith A. Calayaq](#)



The Philippine Animal Welfare Society (PAWS) has filed an animal cruelty complaint against five officials of the Manila City Pound.

In a Facebook post, PAWS announced it lodged the complaint before the Office of the Ombudsman last 25 August.

Respondents to the complaint are Hector David Dimaculangan, assistant chief of the pound and Animal Disease Control Services Division and resident veterinarian of the Manila City Pound; Virgil Benedict de Jesus, city veterinarian; Joey Diaz, supervising veterinarian; Nicanor Santos Jr., member of the Veterinary Inspection Board; and Narcisa Bacanto Javier, member of the Veterinary Inspection Board and chief of its pound and Animal Disease Control Services Division.

Aside from charges of violation of the Animal Welfare Act, PAWS said they are also charged with grave misconduct, gross neglect of duty and conduct prejudicial to the best interest of the service.

The group said the officials subjected impounded dogs and cats to starvation and failed to provide veterinary treatment to sick animals.

The group said it has observed a number of diseased and dead animals, as well as social media reports showing empty cages, indicating the animals were not euthanized, but were left to die from neglect and disease “perhaps to spare the city of the expense of having to euthanize them.”

PAWS Executive Director Anna Cabrera appealed to Manila Mayor Francisco “Isko Moreno” Domagoso to help PAWS uphold the Animal Welfare Act as she called for an end to pound cruelty.

She said the law clearly provides that while strays may be impounded in the interest of public health, the animals must be caught and kept humanely.

“While we lodged the case before the Ombudsman, we trust that Mayor Isko would take urgent action and stop the ongoing inhumane practices toward animals being committed by the officials in charge of Manila’s very own city pound,” Cabrera said.

# Bacolod posts highest single day record of COVID-19 cases with 131

Published August 30, 2020, 12:55 PM

by [Glazyl Masculino](#)

BACOLOD CITY – The City Health Office (CHO) here reported on late Saturday that the city has recorded its highest single day number of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) of 131 on August 29.

With this report, the total number of COVID-19 cases in the city has reached 1,108.

Of these confirmed cases, 899 were local cases, while 209 were either locally stranded individuals (LSIs) and overseas Filipino workers (OFWs).

Local transmission here was first confirmed by the Department of Health (DOH) Region 6 last April, and was reported anew in July due to the increasing number of infected local cases.

Based on the CHO's data, 20 deaths have been recorded, as of August 29, all of them tagged as local transmissions.

There have also been 465 recoveries comprised of 200 local cases, and 265 LSIs and OFWs.

The city, according to the CHO, has 623 active cases of COVID-19.

Of these active cases, 21 were admitted to various hospitals, 221 were on home quarantine, 223 were at the different quarantine facilities, and 158 were still pending for verification.

Mayor Evelio Leonardia had sought the help of President Duterte to address the rising number of COVID-19 cases here.

Duterte dispatched Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu, who had overseen the recovery of Cebu City from being a hotspot for the viral disease, to assess the situation in Bacolod City, and help address its problems with COVID-19 response.

# Bounceback Cebu City charts way to recovery

Published 5 hours ago on August 31, 2020 01:10 AM

By [Rico Osmeña](#)



Cebu City, boosted by decreasing cases of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) infections, is on its way to recovery with a comprehensive socio-economic strategy.

The city council adopted en masse a resolution that will draw up plans for the Queen City of the South to rebuild following its once dark episode as an epicenter of COVID-19 in the Visayas.

Mayor Edgardo Labella said Sunday the city be will placed under modified general community quarantine (MGCQ) on 1 to 15 September.

More businesses will reopen but strict people movement will still be imposed.

“There will be no entertainment establishments and theaters under MGCQ. Strict quarantine protocols are still in force,” Labella said.

The Department of Health Central Visayas reported a massive drop in the city’s remaining active cases.

As of last week, active cases decreased to 606 from more than 1,200.

Overall, Cebu City now has 8,328 recoveries, or 86.91 percent of the total confirmed cases of 9,582 as of the weekend. Healthcare facilities utilization likewise dropped to 23 percent.

The situation in Cebu City alarmed the national government that Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu was dispatched as deputy implementer in the Visayas. At that time, the city had more than 4,400 cases, the highest in the country.

Cebu City COVID-19 Task Force-Emergency Operations Center deputy chief implementer and North District City councilor Joel Garganera also said that from 3,000 patients in 52 barangay isolation centers (BIC), they only have 67 occupants now and two BIC being utilized.

“There will likely be no quick fix or recovery but policies can be formulated to first protect public health and create conditions that will allow gradual and calculated economic recovery to begin,” Councilor Alvin Dizon told the Daily Tribune.

Despite initial gains in reducing cases, there is always the risk of resurgence of cases and complacency is out of the question.

“The economic impacts of the pandemic are being felt here in our city with more businesses slowing and closing down and ordinary Cebuanos hungry and jobless. This pandemic has been the toughest test for the entire country and our city’s economy and healthcare capacity,” Dizon said.

The legislative and executive departments of the city government will take into consideration key components such as economic recovery, public health, inclusive education, support for the poor and other vulnerable groups, fiscal and resource generation measures, among others.

Source: <https://tribune.net.ph/index.php/2020/08/31/bounceback-cebu-city-charts-way-to-recovery/>





President Duterte was expected to return to Manila yesterday after being in Davao City for more than three weeks, his longest stay in his hometown during the pandemic. He will meet with members of the government's pandemic task force today to discuss the quarantine classifications at the Malago Clubhouse in Malacañang park.

Facebook/PCOO

## Will quarantine be eased? Duterte decides today

[Alexis Romero](#) (The Philippine Star) - August 31, 2020 - 12:00am

MANILA, Philippines — President Duterte is scheduled to announce today the updated quarantine classifications of Metro Manila and other areas. He will also attend a Jordan-led virtual conference later this week.

Duterte was expected to return to Manila yesterday after being in Davao City for more than three weeks, his longest stay in his hometown during the pandemic. He will meet with members of the government's pandemic task force today to discuss the quarantine classifications at the Malago Clubhouse in Malacañang park.

“He returns to Manila later (Aug. 30). He will address the people from Malago tomorrow (Aug. 31),” presidential spokesman Harry Roque Jr. said in a text message sent yesterday.

Roque said Duterte would also participate in the Aqaba Process on Sept. 2. The Aqaba Process was launched by Jordanian King Abdullah II in 2015 to “comprehensively address interconnected counterterrorism and violent extremist threats through informal discussions,” according to a previous statement by the United Nations Office of Counterterrorism.

Sen. Bong Go, Duterte's former aide, said the President is expected to talk about the Philippines' response to the coronavirus pandemic during the forum.

Metro Manila and the provinces of Bulacan, Laguna, Cavite and Rizal, which contribute about two thirds of the Philippines' economic output, were placed on partial lockdown from Aug. 4 to 18 after healthcare workers requested a two-week “timeout” that would allow the government to improve its pandemic response. They were placed again under the more lenient general community quarantine last Aug. 19 but stricter measures were imposed such as uniform curfew hours and limiting the industries that can resume operations.

Carlito Galvez, Jr., chief implementer of the coronavirus disease policy, previously said placing entire regions under lockdown would harm the economy and that the enforcement of quarantine measures at the local level is “the way forward.” This was echoed by Health Secretary Francisco Duque III, who said a stricter quarantine status would “irreversibly injure, if not damage, the economy beyond repair.”

The Philippines already has more than 217,000 COVID-19 cases, the highest in Southeast Asia. The pandemic has dragged the Philippines into a recession, with the economy shrinking by a record 16.5 percent in the second quarter, deeper than the 0.7 contraction in the first three months.

Meanwhile, Vice President Leni Robredo believes Metro Manila and nearby areas should remain under general community quarantine for the next two weeks as cases of COVID-19 remain high.

The Vice President said quarantine restrictions should be based on data.

“When we look at the positivity rate, we are hitting 10 to 12 percent, which is way higher than the world standard. The world standard is less than five percent,” Robredo said over dzXL.

The Vice President also noted the high number of COVID-19 fatalities logged in the past weeks.

“We hope the cases will go down. Now, we’re still hitting 3,000 to 6,000, this is very high. And if you look at the number of deaths, yesterday, for the fourth straight day, we have recorded more than 90 deaths,” Robredo said.

On Sunday, the Department of Health recorded 4,284 new COVID-19 cases, bringing the total to 217,396. The agency also logged 102 new fatalities, bringing the total number of deaths due to the disease to 3,520.

The DOH, however, said 22,319 have recovered from the infection, bringing total recoveries to 157,403.

The Vice President said the country should increase its COVID-19 tests per day and intensify its contact tracing to stop the spread of the disease.

“We should increase our initial target of 30,000 tests a day,” she said. – **Helen Flores**

# New safety rules at hand

Published 5 hours ago on August 31, 2020 01:10 AM

By [Francis Wakefield](#)



New quarantine measures in the National Capital Region (NCR) and other areas of the country will be announced via a televised address to the nation today.

Presidential spokesperson Harry Roque said President Rodrigo Duterte will first hold a meeting with select members of his Cabinet and the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF-EID), before announcing the quarantine measures in a recorded address to the people.

Among the officials expected to join the Chief Executive in the meeting include Senator Christopher “Bong” Go, Health Secretary Francisco Duque III, Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana, National Action Plan Against COVID-19 Chief Implementer and Presidential Peace Adviser Secretary Carlito Galvez Jr., etc.

Aside from announcing the new quarantine measures, Roque said the President is also expected to talk about other issues currently affecting the country.

He, however, did not respond to queries on why the President already decided to return to Manila after staying in Davao City for almost a month.

## Old and healthy

Roque earlier stated that the President decided to stay in Davao City as a precautionary measure to avoid getting infected. He added that despite concerns about his health, President Duterte is doing well.

“He is 75 years old, he is as healthy as anyone can be,” Roque said.

In his previous “Talk to The People” held in Davao City last 17 August, President Duterte eased quarantine restrictions in Metro Manila and nearby provinces despite fears that the healthcare system will collapse amid the continuous surge of COVID-19 cases.

The President approved to revert the NCR, Bulacan, Cavite, Laguna and Rizal to general community quarantine (GCQ) from 19 to 31 August.

Duterte also reiterated that Nueva Ecija, Batangas, Quezon Province, Iloilo City, Cebu City, Lapu-Lapu City, Mandaue City, Talisay City and the municipalities of Minglanilla and Consolacion in Cebu province will also be under GCQ until the end of the month.

The rest of the country remained under the modified GCQ, Duterte said.

Mr. Duterte emphasized the need to ensure the safety of employees who will return to work and to intensify the government’s strategies in addressing the pandemic.

He also urged the public anew to faithfully observe safety protocols by wearing masks and face shields, washing of hands and maintaining physical distance.

### **Case rate doubling**

In his last virtual press briefing, Roque said any chances of Metro Manila's quarantine status being relegated to MGCQ or modified general community quarantine will depend on its case doubling rate, which currently stand at nearly 10 days.

The requirement for MGCQ is 28 days.

When asked during the press briefing if Metro Manila will stay under GCQ from 1 to 15 September, Roque said that will be a decision to be made by the IATF.

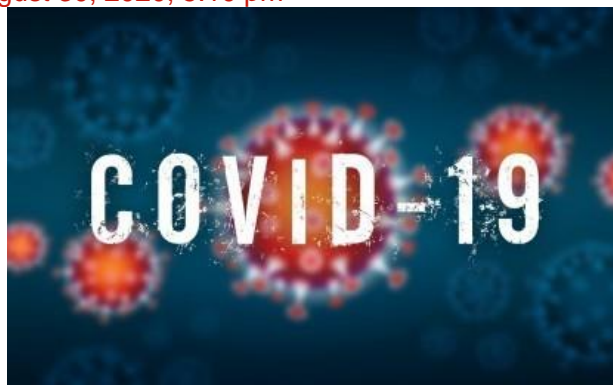
"All I can confirm is you're correct 'no. The case doubling rate has to be twenty plus days before we can hit MGCQ," Roque said.

"That will be a decision of the IATF for which I cannot preempt them 'no," he added.



# PH logs 4,284 new Covid-19 cases; recoveries rise by 22,319

By Ma. Teresa Montemayor August 30, 2020, 5:10 pm



MANILA – The Department of Health (DOH) on Sunday reported 4,284 new coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) infections, raising the overall tally to 217,396 with only 56,473 active cases.

The DOH said the additional cases reported were based on the total Covid-19 tests done by 100 out of 110 operational laboratories.

It reported that of the active cases, about 91.3 percent are mild, 6.1 percent are asymptomatic, 1.1 percent severe, and 1.6 percent are critical patients.

The majority of the newly announced cases were from the National Capital Region (NCR) with 2,207 cases, Laguna with 327 cases, Cavite with 191 cases, Batangas with 161 cases, and Rizal with 147 cases.

"Of the 4,284 reported cases today, 3,779 or 88 percent occurred within the recent 14 days (August 17 - August 30, 2020) and the top regions with cases in the recent two weeks were NCR with 1,906 or 50 percent, Region 4A (Calabarzon) with 758 or 20 percent and from returning overseas Filipinos with 287 or 8 percent," the DOH said.

The department also reported 22,319 new recoveries and 102 deaths, bringing the total number of recoveries to 157,403 and the number of deaths to 3,520.

"Of the 102 deaths, 78 occurred in August which is 76 percent, 21 in July which is 21 percent, two in June which is 2 percent, and one in April which is 1 percent and the deaths were from NCR with 52 or 51 percent, Region 4A (Calabarzon) with 14 or 14 percent, Region 6 (Western Visayas) with 10 or 10 percent, Region 3 (Central Luzon) with nine or 9 percent, Region 7 (Central Visayas) with eight or 8 percent, Region 2 (Cagayan Valley) with two or 2 percent, Region 5 (Bicol) with two or 2 percent, Region 11 (Davao Region) with two or 2 percent, and Caraga with one or 1 percent)," the DOH said.

It added that some 19 duplicates that were removed from the total case count and of these, five recovered cases and one death have been removed.

"Moreover, there were 12 cases that were previously reported as recovered but after final validation, they were deaths," the DOH said.

As of Wednesday, the 85 licensed reverse transcription-polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) laboratories and 28 licensed GeneXpert laboratories have conducted a total of 2,392,529 tests nationwide.

The DOH said it has a 20,100 total bed capacity dedicated to Covid-19 patients.

Occupied are about 49 percent of 1,700 intensive care unit beds; 48 percent of 13,000 isolation beds; and 50 percent of 5,400 ward beds.

About 29 percent of 2,100 ventilators are in use. (PNA)

Source: <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1113869>

Duterte urged to raise arbitral ruling on South China

August 31, 2020

TITLE: Sea row at UN

PAGE 1 / 2

DATE

# Duterte urged to raise arbitral ruling on South China Sea row at UN

By [Glee Jalea, CNN Philippines](#)

Published Aug 30, 2020 12:16:47 PM



Metro Manila (CNN Philippines, August 30) — Two retired Supreme Court justices and a former foreign secretary are calling on President Rodrigo Duterte to assert the 2016 arbitral tribunal ruling favoring the Philippines' victory on the West Philippine Sea.

In a joint statement during the weekend, retired Supreme Court senior associate justice Antonio Carpio, retired associate justice Conchita Carpio Morales (who has also served as Ombudsman), and former foreign secretary Albert del Rosario urged Duterte to raise the Hague ruling before the United Nations General Assembly, which is set to convene in New York on September 15.

The trio said Duterte must use the remainder of his term to gain the support of the 193 UN member nations on the ruling of a Permanent Court of Arbitration-backed tribunal that upheld the Philippines' sovereign rights to its 200-nautical-mile exclusive economic zone and invalidated Beijing's territorial claims in the South China Sea.

"President Duterte must raise the Arbitral Ruling at the UNGA this September as he will have just one more opportunity to gain the support of more countries next year in the same forum," their statement said.

"If the Arbitral Ruling is raised this year, we are enabled to work multilaterally and bilaterally in preparation for UNGA 2021 when our chances will have significantly been improved," the said.

**Tristan Nodalo** @TristanNodalo

LOOK: Ex-DFA Secretary Albert Del Rosario, Former Senior Associate Justice Antonio Carpio and Former Ombudsman Conchita Carpio Morales issued a joint statement urging the Duterte administration to bring the arbitral ruling to the UN General Assembly in September [@cnnphilippines](#)

1 of 3

**PLEASE BRING THE ARBITRAL RULING TO THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

Joint Statement by

**ALBERT DEL ROSARIO      ANTONIO T. CAPIO**  
**CONCHITA CAPIO MORALES**

Date: 28 August 2020

On September 15, 2020, the 75<sup>th</sup> regular session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) will convene at the UN Headquarters in New York. This is when the leaders of 193 countries from the UN to promote their respective positions before the global community of nations. This is when States, big and small, will have a full window to be heard.

We, Filipinos, must not waste this chance to be heard. Having lost so many opportunities by the shying of the Arbitral Ruling since 2016, it is now in our highest national interest to bring this Ruling on the South China Sea to the UNGA.

With due respect, we do not fully agree with the opinion of Foreign Affairs Secretary Teodoro Locsin Jr. that "We won it already. Why would you want to re-litigate something that you won?"

Please Bring the Arbitral Ruling to the UN General Assembly  
Joint Statement by Albert del Rosario, Antonio T. Carpio and Conchita Carpio Morales

to us to enforce the Arbitral Ruling by rallying other countries to our lawful position. If we do not help ourselves, how can we expect other countries to help us?

Our Constitution has clearly tasked our President and military to secure our sovereignty and protect our lands and seas. This important mandate should prompt the Government to bring the Arbitral Ruling to the UNGA.

When President Duterte decided to shelve the Arbitral Ruling, he also promised the Filipino people to raise the Ruling at a "Neutral Venue." This "Neutral Venue" is also going against UNCLOS which grants them considerable maritime areas and resources they previously did not enjoy? How can naval powers like the US, UK, France and others not support UNCLOS which upholds their freedom of navigation and overflight around the world? This simple logic should not be lost on us.

Raising the Arbitral Ruling at the UNGA is the will of the Filipino people. Surveys show that eight out of ten Filipinos believe that the South China Sea issue should be brought to the UNGA. Our Government must listen to its people.

We therefore appeal to our country's leadership to kindly be there for us.

11:27 AM · Aug 30, 2020 from Mandaluyong City, National Capital Region ⓘ

👍 153    💬 59 people are Tweeting about this

Duterte urged to raise arbitral ruling on South China

August 31, 2020

TITLE: Sea row at UN

PAGE 1/ 2/2

DATE

They added that Filipinos must not waste the chance to be heard, having lost opportunities in the past by shelving the Arbitral Ruling since 2016.

Vietnam, Malaysia, Indonesia, Brunei, and Taiwan also have claims in the South China Sea, but have previously expressed their own pushback against China.

Morales, Carpio, and Del Rosario also slammed the previous remark of Foreign Affairs Secretary Teodoro Locsin Jr. that [there is no need to "re-litigate" the Philippines' case](#).

"Bringing the Arbitral Ruling to the UNGA is not re-litigating the case. It is enforcing that we already won," they claimed, noting that the international law does not have a "world policeman."

"The Philippines has the strongest position among all nations to bring the South China Sea issue to the fore," they said.

Locsin reiterated his stance in an interview with CNN Philippines' The Source on Friday and claimed that [raising China's misdeeds before the UNGA could only trigger a reopening of the case](#) which could be interpreted differently.

"I can't afford to lose our arbitral award. I don't want to go down in history as the guy who lost it," he said.

Locsin, however, said that [he would recommend terminating government contracts with Chinese firms](#) involved in building an artificial island in the disputed territory.

The United States has blacklisted state-run companies and officials involved in the militarization of the South China Sea.

Despite the ruling, China has continued with its island-building activities in features covering the Philippines' exclusive economic zone.

# Arbitral ruling sa WPS kailangang igiit, ipaglaban

By [Al G. Pedroche](#) (Pilipino Star Ngayon)

- August 31, 2020 - 12:00am

NALALAPIT na ang pagdaraos ng United Nations General Assembly (UNGGA) ng taunang pagpupulong nito. Gusto ng mga dating top officials ng bansa na iharap muli ng Pilipinas sa naturang pagtitipon ng mga world leaders ang ruling ng United Nations Arbitral Tribunal na kumukumpirma na ang West Philippine Sea na sinasakop ng China ay bahagi ng Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) ng Pilipinas.

Kaso tutol sa nabanggit na panukala si Foreign Affairs Secretary Teddy Boy Locsin. Katuwiran niya, parang ito'y muling nagpapailalim sa re-litigation sa isang usaping napagdesisyunan na at napanalunan na ng Pilipinas.

Sa isang joint statement, sinabi nina dating Supreme Court senior associate justice Antonio Carpio, dating ombudsman at associate justice Conchita Carpio-Morales at dating foreign affairs secretary Albert del Rosario na mahalagang maiharap muli Sa UN General Assembly ang usapin dahil ayaw itong kilalanin ng China, bagay na nagdudulot ng tensyon sa naturang rehiyon.

Pulos mga leader ng mga bansa sa daigdig ang dadalo sa pulong at ang isyung nakakaapekto sa Pilipinas ay suliranin ng buong daigdig.

"It is in the "highest national interest" to bring the ruling to the annual meeting of world leaders" anang mga dating top officials sa kanilang pinagsanib na pahayag.

Hindi sang-ayon ang mga dating opisyal na katumbas ito ng re-litigation. Sa pagitan ng mga dating opisyal na pawang mga legal experts at ni Locsin, sino ang paniniwalaan? Ang mga lumagda sa joint statement ay pawang mga dating mahistrado at may mataas ang kaalaman sa batas pandaigdig.

"If the arbitral ruling is raised this year, we are enabled to work multilaterally and bilaterally in preparation for UNGA 2021 when our chances will have significantly been improved," anang mga former officials sa joint statement.

Tama ang mga dating opisyal na ito. Ano ang halaga ng arbitral ruling kahit sabihin mang sa Pilipinas ang buong West Philippine Seas pero hindi naman kinikilala ng China ang promulgasying ito? Marapat lang na ito'y ating ipaglaban bilang mga Pilipinong nagmamahal sa Inang-Bayan.

Source: <https://www.philstar.com/pilipino-star-ngayon/opinyon/2020/08/31/2039029/arbitral-ruling-sa-wps-kailangang-igiit-ipaglaban/amp/>



Solons back termination of contracts with Chinese firms in S. China Sea island reclamation

August 31, 2020

DATE

TITLE:

PAGE 1/ 1/2



An aerial photo taken from a Philippine military plane on May 11, 2015 shows the alleged on-going land reclamation by China on Mischief Reef in the Spratly Islands. Ritchie B. Tongo/Pool via REUTERS/File Photo

## Solons back termination of contracts with Chinese firms in S. China Sea island reclamation

**Published** August 30, 2020 5:33pm By ERWIN COLCOL, GMA News

Lawmakers backed the move of Foreign Secretary Teodoro Locsin Jr. to recommend the termination of contracts with Chinese companies involved in China's massive island-building efforts in the disputed South China Sea territories.

In a statement over the weekend, Senator Francis Pangilinan welcomed Locsin's move, although he wanted the defense sector be more supportive of the "blacklisting" of these Chinese companies.

"We had expressed our serious reservations regarding the national security implications of these China state owned projects. Chinese anti-espionage and national intelligence laws compel Chinese corporations to cooperate with and participate in the gathering of information by the State," Pangilinan said.

"They are potential threats to our national security and we would like to hear louder and more decisive voices in the defense and military establishment supporting such blacklisting," he added.

In a separate virtual media forum, Senator Imee Marcos also supported Locsin's recommendation, although she hopes the Philippines would be more wary in their actions related to the territorial dispute.

"Nagpapasalamat ako kay Secretary Locsin, dahil ang tapang niya. Okay talaga yun, we comply with the requirements of the international law na ire-report natin lahat ng mga violative incentives. Maganda yun na matapang," she said.

"Pero kailangan ng konting diskarteng Pinoy. Kasi bakit naman tayo magtatapang-tapangan kung wala namang tayong ibubuga? Mahirap naman kung hindi mo pwedeng pangatawanan," she added.

Solons back termination of contracts with Chinese  
firms in S. China Sea island reclamation

PAGE 1/ 2/2

August 31, 2020

DATE

For his part, Bayan Muna party-list Representative Carlos Zarate said Locsin should also include in his recommendation the Chinese companies involved in "onerous" deals like the Kaliwa Dam and Chico Dam projects, which he said will only bury the country in more debt.

"Di lang dapat ang mga kompanyang kasangkot sa pananakop ng ating mga teritoryo sa West Philippine Sea ang patalsikin sa Pilipinas kundi maging ang mga kumpanyang kasangkot sa mga maanomalyang kontrata tulad ng China Energy Engineering Corporation Limited," he said.

"The Duterte administration apparently already pre-selected these contractors that will implement these Kaliwa and Chico projects. This is a violation of our procurement laws, as well as violation of the Constitution that mandates a preference for Filipino contractors and workers who are equally, if not more than qualified," he added.

The US on Wednesday said at least 24 state-owned Chinese companies, including subsidiaries of the China Communications Construction Company (CCCC) helped Chinese military "construct and militarize the internationally condemned artificial islands in the South China Sea."

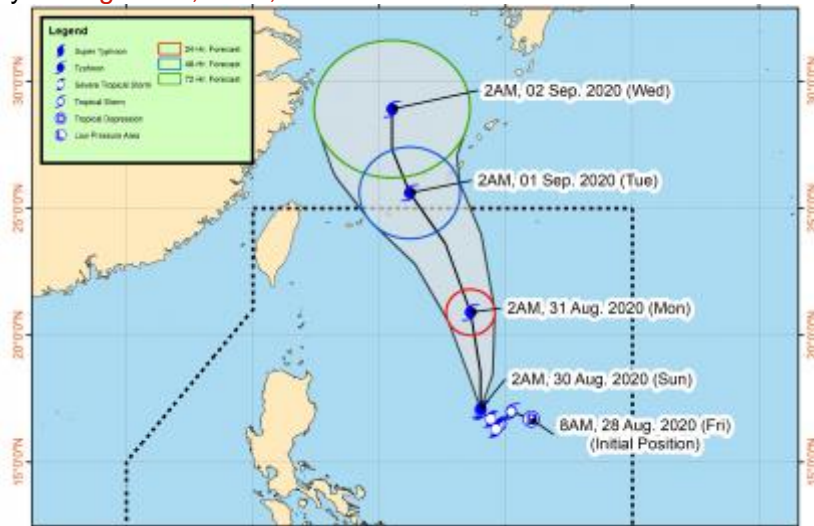
These firms, Washington said, "must be held responsible" and that individuals connected to these firms, including their immediate family members, [will be barred from entering the US.](#)

"If I find that any of those companies are doing business with us then I would strongly recommend we terminate that relationship with that company," Locsin said.

"If they were in any way involved in the reclamation then it becomes consistent in our part to terminate any contract with them," he added. — **BM, GMA News**

# 'Julian' intensifies into a typhoon

By Ma. Teresa Montemayor August 30, 2020, 11:19 am



Courtesy of DOST/PAGASA

MANILA – Tropical cyclone “Julian” (international name: Maysak) intensified from a severe tropical storm into a typhoon, the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) said on Sunday.

In its 5 a.m. severe weather bulletin, the weather bureau said Julian will gradually accelerate generally northward on Sunday and turn northwestward on Monday.

PAGASA said the tropical cyclone will remain over the Philippine Sea and is forecast to exit the Philippine Area of Responsibility (PAR) on Monday evening or Tuesday early morning.

“Julian is forecast to intensify rapidly and may reach its peak intensity by Monday,” it added.

At 4 a.m., the eye of the center was located at 740 kilometers east of Casiguran, Aurora or 775 kilometers east of Tuguegarao City, Cagayan.

Julian has maximum sustained winds of 120 kms per hour near the center and gustiness of up to 150 kms per hour and its movement is almost stationary.

The weather bureau said the raising of tropical cyclone wind signal is unlikely through the forecast as Julian “is less likely to directly cause high impact weather over the country”.

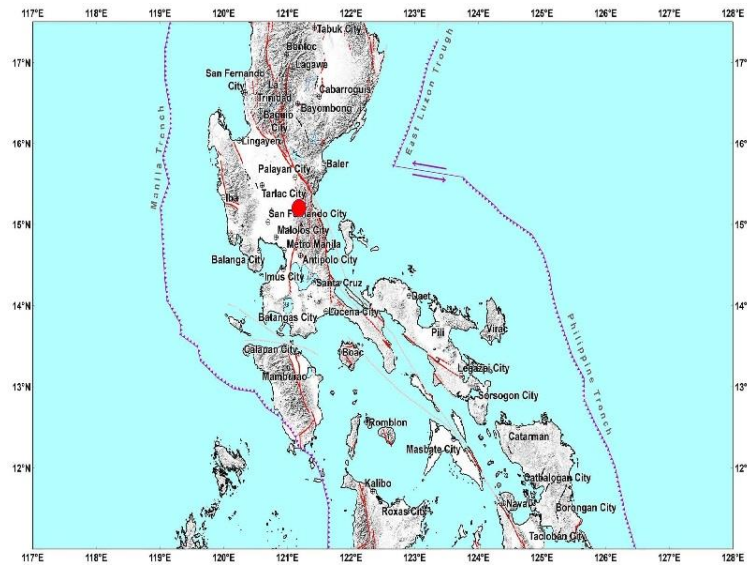
It, however, said southwest monsoon is forecast to bring moderate to rough seas over the seaboard of Northern Luzon, the eastern seaboard of Central and Southern Luzon, and the northern and eastern seaboard of Eastern Visayas.

“Those with small seacraft are advised to take precautionary measures while venturing out to sea,” it added.

On Monday, Julian will be at 690 kilometers east of Basco, Batanes and by Tuesday it will be at 720 kilometers northeast of extreme Northern Luzon. On Tuesday, it will be at 1,005 kilometers north northeast of extreme Northern Luzon. (PNA)

# Magnitude 3.6 na lindol, tumama sa Bulacan

By Angellic Jordan August 30, 2020 - 07:42 PM



Niyanig ng magnitude 3.6 na lindol ang Bulacan, Linggo ng hapon.

Sinabi ng Phivolcs na namataan ang episentro ng lindol sa layong 23 kilometers Northeast ng San Miguel bandang 5:41 ng hapon.

14 kilometers ang lalim ng lindol at tectonic ang origin.

Wala namang napaulat na pinsala sa nasabing bayan.

Wala ring inaasahang aftershocks matapos ang pagyanig.

# Ilang parte ng Mindanao niyanig ng magnitude 5.0 na lindol

By [Bombo Radyo Gensan](#) -August 31, 2020 | 2:56 AM

GENERAL SANTOS CITY –Niyang ng magnitude 5.0 na lindol ang Kiblawan Davao Del Sur at ang mga karatig-lugar nito, madaling araw ng Lunes.

Sa impormasyon mula sa Philvolcs, may lalim na 18 kilometro ang pagyanig na nangyari alas-1.44 ng madaling araw, at nangyari ito 7 kilometro Southeast ng nabanggit na lugar.

Naramdaman din ang intensity III na pagyanig sa ilan pang mga parte ng Mindanao, gaya ng Koronadal City; Bansalan at Magsaysay, Davao del Sur.

Nadama naman ang Intensity II sa Kidapawan City.

Naitala naman ang Instrumental Intensities na Intensity V sa Malungon, Sarangani Province at Intensity IV sa Koronadal City at Tupi, South Cotabato, Intensity III sa General Santos City at Alabel, Sarangani Province at Intensity II naman ang naramdaman sa Kiamba, Sarangani.

Sa ngayon ay patuloy na inaalang ng mga otoridad ang danyos bunsod ng nasabing malakas na pag-uga ng lupa na tinatayang nagtagal ng dalawang minuto.

Nabulabog ang pagtulog ng mga residenteng mula sa mga apektadong lugar lalong-lalo ang mga naninirahan sa coastal area ng GenSan matapos ang lindol.

Inalerto din ngayon ang publiko laban sa mga posibleng aftershock.



# The world's most expensive sheep has just been purchased for \$490,000

By Lauren Johnson, CNN

Published Aug 30, 2020 6:05:52 PM



(CNN) — A sheep sold for a record 350,000 guineas — or around \$490,000 in American money — at an auction in Scotland this week.

The lamb, named Double Diamond, had generated buzz before the Scottish National Texel sale in Lanark started, according to a news release from the [Texel Sheep Society](#). Bidding started at 10000 guineas (about but \$13,000).

A bidding war drove up the price until an agreement was reached for the sheep to be shared between three farms.

"It's just like every other business — horse racing or the cattle business," Jeff Aiken, one of the winning bidders, told [The Guardian](#). "Every once in a while something special comes along and yesterday an extra special Texel turned up. Everyone wanted a piece of it."

Texel sheep originated in Holland and are a butcher favorite, according to the Texel Sheep Society.

It is traditional for livestock to be sold in guineas at auction in the United Kingdom, and one guinea translates to about \$1.40 American dollars.

The previous record for one sheep was 230,000 pounds — over \$307,000 in US money — for a sheep named Deveronvale Perfection in 2009.

This story was first published on CNN.com, "[The world's most expensive sheep has just been purchased for \\$490,000.](#)"